National Institute of Standards & Technology

Certificate

Standard Reference Material® 4401L

Iodine-131 Radioactivity Standard

Lot Number 40

Ampoule 1

This Standard Reference Material (SRM) consists of a solution of a standardized and certified quantity of radioactive iodine-131 in a suitably stable and homogeneous matrix. It is intended primarily for the calibration of instruments that are used to measure radioactivity and for the monitoring of radiochemical procedures. A unit of SRM 4401L consists of approximately 5 mL of a solution, whose composition is specified in Table 1 and 2, contained in a flame-sealed borosilicate-glass ampoule [1].

The certified **iodine-131** massic activity value, at a **Reference Time of 0800 EST, 26 March 2014**, is:

(4.824 ± 0.043) MBq•g^{-1}

A NIST certified value, as used within the context of this certificate, is a value for which NIST has the highest confidence in its uncertainty assessment. It is a "measurement result" [2] obtained directly or indirectly from a "primary reference measurement procedure" [3]. The certified value is traceable to the derived SI unit, becquerel (Bq).

Additional physical, chemical, and radiological properties for this SRM, as well as details on the standardization method, are given in Table 1 and 2. Uncertainties for the certified quantities are expanded (k = 2). The uncertainties are calculated according to the ISO and NIST Guide [4,5]. Table 3 contains a specification of the components that comprise the uncertainty analyses.

Expiration of Certification: The certification of **SRM 4401L** is valid, within the measurement uncertainty specified, within its half-life-dependent useful lifetime, provided the SRM is handled in accordance with instructions given in this certificate (see "Instructions for Handling and Storage"). The certification is nullified if the SRM is damaged, contaminated, or otherwise modified.

Maintenance of Certification: NIST will monitor this SRM over the period of its certification. If substantive technical changes occur that affect the certification, NIST will notify the purchaser.

Radiological and Chemical Hazard: Consult the Safety Data Sheet (SDS), enclosed with the SRM shipment, for radiological and chemical hazard information.

This SRM was prepared in the Physical Measurement Laboratory, Radiation Physics Division, Radioactivity Group, M.P. Unterweger, Group Leader. The overall production, technical direction and physical measurement leading to certification were provided by R.K. Young and D.B. Golas, Guest Researchers from NRMAP, Incorporated.

Support aspects involved in the issuance of this SRM were coordinated through the NIST Measurement Services Division.

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Table 1. Certified Massic Activity of SRM 4401L, Lot 40, Ampoule 1

Radionuclide	**Iodine-131**
Reference time	**0800 EST, 26 March 2014**
Massic activity of the solution	**4.824 MBq•g^{-1}**
Relative expanded uncertainty (k = 2)	**0.90 %**[(a)]

[(a)] The uncertainties on certified values are expanded uncertainties, $U = ku_c$. The quantity u_c is the combined standard uncertainty calculated according to the ISO and NIST Guides [4,5]. The combined standard uncertainty is multiplied by a coverage factor of k = 2 and was chosen to obtain an approximate 95 % level of confidence.

Table 2. Uncertified Information of SRM 4401L, Lot 40, Ampoule 1

Source description	Liquid in a flame-sealed 5-mL NIST borosilicate ampoule [1]
Solution composition	Water containing approximately 175 µg KI, 255 µg LiOH, and 103 µg Na_2SO_3 per gram of solution
Solution density	(0.999 ± 0.002) g•mL^{-1} at 20.0 °C[(a)]
Solution mass	(4.9835 ± 0.0003) g[(a)]
Photon-emitting impurities	None detected[(b)]
Half-life used	^{131}I: (8.0233 ± 0.0019) d[(c)]
Calibration method (and instruments)	Measurements of ionization current ratios relative to radium-226 reference sources using NIST pressurized "4π"γ ionization chamber "A" calibrated using an iodine-131 solution whose activity was determined by the 4πβ-γ live-timed anticoincidence efficiency-extrapolation technique.

[(a)] The stated uncertainty is two times the standard uncertainty.

[(b)] The estimated lower limits of detection for photon-emitting impurities, expressed as massic photon emission rates, as of 26 March 2014 were:

2.9×10^3 s^{-1}•g^{-1} for energies between 30 keV and 50 keV,
1.1×10^3 s^{-1}•g^{-1} for energies between 55 keV and 340 keV,
3.6×10^3 s^{-1}•g^{-1} for energies between 350 keV and 380 keV,
4.5×10^2 s^{-1}•g^{-1} for energies between 390 keV and 610 keV,
1.3×10^3 s^{-1}•g^{-1} for energies between 620 keV and 650 keV,
2.1×10^2 s^{-1}•g^{-1} for energies between 660 keV and 700 keV,
7.1×10^2 s^{-1}•g^{-1} for energies between 710 keV and 740 keV,
9.6×10^1 s^{-1}•g^{-1} for energies between 750 keV and 1020 keV,
6.8×10^1 s^{-1}•g^{-1} for energies between 1030 keV and 1440 keV,
9.6×10^1 s^{-1}•g^{-1} for energies between 1450 keV and 1480 keV, and
5.5×10^1 s^{-1}•g^{-1} for energies between 1490 keV and 2000 keV,

provided that any impurity photons are separated by four keV or more from photons emitted in the decay of iodine-131. For purposes of calculating the ingrowth of the xenon-131m daughter, the ampoules were sealed at 1718 EST, 25 March 2014.

[(c)] The stated uncertainty is the standard uncertainty. See reference 6.

Table 3. Uncertainty Evaluation for the Massic Activity of SRM 4401L, Lot 40

	Uncertainty component	Assessment Type[(a)]	Relative standard uncertainty contribution on massic activity of iodine-131 (%)
1	Ionization-chamber measurement precision for the low-level solution (SRM 4401L, Lot 40); standard deviation of the mean for two sets of measurements on ten ampoules	A	0.01
2	"4π"γ ionization-chamber calibration factor	B	0.44
3	Radium reference source positioning	B	0.05
4	Ionization-chamber charge collection	B	0.05
5	Gravimetric mass measurements	B	0.05
6	Decay correction for iodine-131 (for half-life uncertainty of 0.024 %)	B	0.0001
7	Decay correction for radium-226 reference source to correct the calibration factor (for half-life uncertainty of 0.44 %)	B	0.0004
8	Photon-emitting impurities	B	0.001
9	Detection limits for photon-emitting impurities	B	0.01
Relative combined standard uncertainty			**0.45**
Relative expanded uncertainty (k = 2)			**0.90**

[(a)]Letter A denotes evaluation by statistical methods; B denotes evaluation by other methods.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HANDLING AND STORAGE

Handling: If the ampoule is transported, it should be packed, marked, labeled, and shipped in accordance with the applicable national, international, and carrier regulations. The solution in the ampoule is a dangerous good (hazardous material) because of both the radioactivity and the chemical basicity. The ampoule should be opened only by persons qualified to handle both radioactive material and alkaline and/or acidic solutions. Appropriate shielding and/or distance should be used to minimize personnel exposure. Refer to the SDS for further information.

Storage: SRM 4401L should be stored and used at a temperature between 5 °C and 65 °C. The ampoule (or any subsequent container) should always be clearly marked as containing radioactive material.

REFERENCES

[1] NIST Physical Measurement Laboratory; *Storage and Handling of Radioactive Standard Reference Materials, Ampoule Specifications and Opening Procedure*; available at http://www.nist.gov/pml/div682/grp04/srm.cfm.

[2] JCGM 200:2012; *International Vocabulary of Metrology - Basic and General Concepts and Associated Terms (VIM)* (2008 version with Minor Corrections), 3rd edition; Joint Committee for Guides in Metrology: BIPM, Sèvres Cedex, France; p. 19 (2012); available at http://www.bipm.org/utils/common/documents/jcgm/JCGM_200_2012.pdf.

[3] JCGM 200:2012; *International Vocabulary of Metrology - Basic and General Concepts and Associated Terms (VIM)* (2008 version with Minor Corrections), 3rd edition; Joint Committee for Guides in Metrology: BIPM, Sèvres Cedex, France; p. 18 (2012); available at http://www.bipm.org/utils/common/documents/jcgm/JCGM_200_2012.pdf.

[4] JCGM 100:2008; *Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement*; (ISO GUM 1995 with Minor Corrections), Joint Committee for Guides in Metrology: BIPM, Sèvres Cedex, France (2008); available at http://www.bipm.org/utils/common/documents/jcgm/JCGM_100_2008_E.pdf.

[5] Taylor, B.N.; Kuyatt, C.E.; *Guidelines for Evaluating and Expressing the Uncertainty of NIST Measurement Results*; NIST Technical Note 1297, U.S. Government Printing Office: Washington, DC (1994); available at http://physics.nist.gov/Pubs/.

[6] Laboratoire National Henri Becquerel; *Table of Radionuclides, Recommended Data* (updated 20 January 2014) available at http://www.nucleide.org/DDEP_WG/DDEPdata.htm (accessed March 2014).

Users of this SRM should ensure that the Certificate in their possession is current. This can be accomplished by contacting the SRM Program: telephone (301) 975-2200; fax (301) 948-3730; e-mail srminfo@nist.gov; or via the internet at http://www.nist.gov/srm.